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Ontario Animal Research and Services Committee (O.A.R.S.C)

1998 Report to

Ontario Agricultural Services Coordinating Committee

December, 1998

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OASCC Reports

- Ontario Aquaculture Research and Services Committee
- Ontario Beef Research and Services Committee
- Ontario Broiler Industry Research and Services Committee
- Ontario Dairy Research and Services Committee Report
- Ontario Deer Research and Services Committee
- Ontario Egg Layer Industry Research and Services Committee
- Ontario Equine Research and Services Committee Reports
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- Ontario Pork Research and Services Committee
- Ontario Sheep Research and Services Committee
- Ontario Turkey Research and Services Committee

Ontario Animal Research and Services Committee Report - 1998

The Ontario Animal Research and Services Committee (OARSC) held its Annual Meeting on November 4, 1998, at the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) head office in Guelph, Ontario. This meeting was well attended with active participation.

All twelve species subcommittees held meetings this year and submitted reports which are included in this report. The research priorities as identified by each committee play a significant role in the coordination of research in Ontario.

OMAFRA announced a special research fund which will target the areas of: biotechnology; rural economic development; value added food products; new non-food, non-feed products, alternative crops and alternative livestock. A call for proposals will be issued by December 1998.

The review of the research coordination process in Ontario occurred during 1998. The review has resulted in nine recommendations which will be implemented over the next year. Generally, it was concluded that a change in the research coordination structure was not as great as the need for a

change in the way in which the various organizations participated. The presence of members of the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO) at the annual meeting is evidence of strengthened ties in the research coordination process.

A number of common issues were identified during the day long meeting and in most cases emphasized what was discussed in 1997:

Food Safety

Food safety issues such as microbial contaminants, antibiotic residues, feed and water quality need to be further addressed to better understand the relative risks. HACCP and Quality Assurance Programs currently being developed by many commodities are important to ensure a safe food supply. There might be an opportunity to better coordinate food safety research.

Antibiotic Resistance

The appropriate use of antibiotics in livestock continues to be an important issue. The effect of long term use on microbial resistance, animal and poultry performance, public perception, off-label use of medications, and the appropriate use of feed prescriptions are all components of this issue.

Disease Surveillance

OARSC recommends that there be increased emphasis on disease surveillance (both passive/diagnostic and active) to maintain the viability and competitiveness of the Ontario livestock sector. Disease surveillance and animal tracking is also a critical component of an effective food safety system.

Biotechnology

Biotechnology as it relates to food safety, production and market access was identified as a current and future issue.

Manure Management and Water Quality

Manure management and water quality issues are currently of major importance to the viability, competitiveness and sustainability of the pork industry and increasingly so for other livestock commodities. Research and technology transfer, in this important area, both at the provincial and national levels, needs to be increased.

Animal Welfare

Several species subcommittees continue to identify the issues of animal welfare and itemize ongoing research that is needed.

Technology Transfer

The area of technology transfer appears to be the limiting factor in implementing research results. This is of common concern to all livestock sectors.

OMAFRA has implemented an organizational change in the Agriculture Division. The incorporation of Program Leads will provide a link to resources and research around the world for practical application to rural Ontario.

A Poultry National Strategy to be held in Ottawa in November 1998 will identify research, teaching and technology transfer needs of the poultry industry and how to effectively use its resources in these areas.

The Veal and Horse Codes of Practice are now available from the appropriate commodity organizations. Factsheets are available at the CARC homepage (www.carc-crac.ca). A Goat Code of Practice is in the works as well as a revision to the Pig Code of Practice.

The time and effort committed by all Chairs and Committee members in assembling this report is gratefully acknowledged.

Yours truly,

Dr. Gwen Zellen Katherine Hoffman
Chair, Research Analyst (Animals),
Ontario Animal Research & Services Committee Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs

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Duties and Responsibilities of OASCC Members

INTRODUCTION

OASCC Committees are, for the most part, focused on a specific commodity sector (e.g. dairy, corn, crucifer crops, meat products and processing etc.). However, there are several committees which operate around a resource or discipline/function focus (economics, soils, engineering, pest management etc.).

Regardless of the committee focus, membership consists of representatives of all the interested stakeholders from the appropriate sector of the industry.

These stakeholders may include:

· producer organizations and marketing boards
· food industry organizations
· agri-business and trade organizations
· Ontario universities involved in research in the subject matter
· researchers from federal and provincial agri-food research stations in Ontario
· researchers from private institutions and agri-business
· extension specialists and other staff from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
· consumer and special interest groups

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION

The sponsoring organization should select a capable representative who is prepared to put the necessary time and effort into doing a thorough job. The organization is also responsible for covering any expenses incurred by the representative. In most cases, meeting room costs, etc. are covered by OMAFRA, AAFC or the University of Guelph.

The representative is expected to convey the views, needs,

concerns and priorities of the organization. To do so in a meaningful way, the organization should provide a mechanism for the representative to gather that information from its membership. This may be done, for instance, by creating a research committee within the organization to develop its position. Organizations which fund research themselves often use the same committee that reviews research proposals for funding support. Regardless of the mechanism, the organization needs to ensure that it is its views, and not those of the individual, that are conveyed to the OASCC Committee.

The representative should also report back regularly to the membership of the organization. The organization can provide such opportunity on the program of annual meetings. Or, the organization may be interested in holding research information days at which the representative can play a lead role.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBER

The member conveys the views of his/her organization to the Committee. That means doing one's homework prior to the meeting and participating fully in the discussions at the meeting. It also means follow up after the meeting to review and comment on the draft Committee report and to communicate the results of the meeting to his/her constituent organization. It does not matter whether the member represents a producer organization, a University department, a research station or a special interest group, the same rules apply.

The member should gather together a report (preferably in writing) from his/her organization which outlines the issues and concerns facing that sector of the industry, the priorities of the organization and recommendations on how to address those needs. The collection of this information should be an ongoing activity throughout the year with endorsement of the final presentation from the organization.

The member should articulate and defend the organization's position on issues and priorities. The process within the Committee should be one of consensus building but the views of the majority should prevail. The member may insist on a "minority decision" going forward if the organization holds strong views on a subject.

The member should take every opportunity to report back to his/her organization on the activities and recommendations of the Committee. Regular two way communication is the key to successful operation of the OASCC system.

HOW TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE

Any organization may request that it be allowed a representative on any appropriate OASCC Committee(s) in which it has a direct or indirect interest. The organization should contact the Chair of the Committee directly or, where this is not known, contact:

Chair
Ontario Agricultural Services Coordinating Committee
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
1 Stone Road West, 4NW
Guelph, Ontario
N1G 4Y2
(phone: 519/826-4166; fax 519/826-4222)

The appointment should be made for a four year period. Changing representation more frequently results in a lack of continuity between the organization and the Committee.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OASCC

· Ensure all interested stakeholders are represented.
· Ensure the voice of each stakeholder is heard and acknowledged.
· Come to a consensus on priorities.
· Report on feedback from other (higher) committees and responsible agencies.

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Research Priority Ranking

The number code identifies the priority of the research where:

1. Very Important
2. Important
3. Desirable but less important than the above rankings.

The letter code indicates the apparent level of research effort to be invested were:

A. New topic, no known research underway.
B. Expansion of effort needed, but some work currently underway.
C. Continue of effort at current level.
D. Decrease or discontinue effort

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General State of the Ontario Livestock Industry

The tables that follow show:

1. Average prices to the Ontario producer.
2. Farm cash receipts from farming operations in Ontario (1992-1997).
3. Imports and exports of Ontario and Canadian Agri-Food products.
4. Canadian per capita consumption of selected food products between 1991-1997.
5. Canadian per capita consumption of selected animal products between 1991-1997.
6. Slaughter trends at commercial establishments in Canada on a provincial basis.
7. Rank and size of the Ontario livestock and poultry industry.

Detailed information on the state of the industry is included in each species committee report.

AVERAGE PRICE TO THE PRODUCER, ONTARIO					
	1992	1994	1995	1996	1997
Slaughter steers, $/cwt	85.65	94.24	80.64	75.88	80.93
Slaughter lambs, $/cwt	97.99	116.60	130.62	138.22	142.85
Hogs, index 100, $/100 kg	132.00	145.00	151.00	189.00	187.00
Chickens, $/kg	1.51	1.45	1.41	1.56	1.53
Turkeys, $/kg	1.60	1.66	1.67	1.85	1.81
Eggs, $/doz	1.04	1.12	1.17	1.31	1.24
Milk, $/hl	-	52.05	51.82	51.80	51.47
Source: Statistics Canada					

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Farm Cash Receipts from Farming Operations, 1993-1997					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
	-$'000-				
Wheat	81,264	136,662	152,695	155,817	71,325
Oats	6,710	5,557	6,315	5,309	5,201
Barley	11,511	10,805	11,998	14,463	11,612
Rye	1,856	4,132	4,205	5,845	5,410
Canola	8,825	14,682	21,069	12,314	17,196
Soybeans	418,426	470,310	590,909	558,296	726,158
Corn	266,340	332,853	473,146	509,092	425,200
Potatoes	49,580	58,847	51,600	42,703	53,292
Vegetables	389,759	413,494	430,420	419,456	462,139
Apples	51,275	55,120	77,479	65,337	81,270
Other tree fruits	35,878	48,839	46,469	34,060	42,822
Strawberries	19,968	27,461	28,381	14,683	17,351
Other berries, grapes	24,342	32,452	37,205	35,476	45,032
Floriculture and nursery	393,309	421,307	447,474	490,523	540,893
Tobacco	250,836	344,925	270,402	323,630	328,727

Ginseng	50,200	47,840	47,300	45,620	45,200
Dry beans	28,363	48,948	64,186	36,057	28,640
Forage and grass seed	2,016	1,865	1,599	1,638	1,664
Hay and clover	2,184	3,848	5,421	4,386	4,996
Maple products	8,658	9,261	9,897	14,807	10,108
Forest products	14,962	16,678	16,412	16,854	16,988
Miscellaneous crops	23,277	27,564	30,741	30,870	32,354
					2,973,578
Total crops	**2,139,539**	**2,533,450**	**2,825,323**	**2,837,236**	**2,973,578**
Cattle	877,869	815,963	756,203	692,205	685,006
Calves	110,694	113,604	85,942	60,335	70,705
Hogs	562,349	537,708	590,719	747,990	768,041
Sheep	2,690	2,082	2,123	2,133	2,267
Lambs	20,839	19,488	21,673	24,178	21,672
Dairy products	1,072,547	1,155,183	1,169,532	1,185,680	1,234,543
Hens and chickens	343,050	358,065	341,455	406,481	418,022
Turkeys	88,982	96,746	101,082	124,383	118,163
Eggs	194,622	201,859	213,312	240,013	237,877
Honey	8,756	8,745	8,174	10,305	8,668
Furs	7,530	11,474	10,263	18,983	13,597
Wool	240	279	628	683	735
Other livestock products	72,410	73,100	72,656	77,331	78,770
					3,659,289
Total livestock and products a	**3,363,786**	**3,395,860**	**3,375,145**	**3,592,307**	**3,659,289**
Crop Insurance	182,206	38,015	25,818	58,096	47,154
ASA Price Stabilization	5	5	2	-	...
ASA Tripartite	5,213	7,728	725	14	(29)
Provincial Stabilization	1,167	409	-	-	-
Dairy Subsidy	70,029	69,107	65,258	53,742	53,284
GRIP (revenue protection)	108,735	17,766	(199)	563	416
NISA	23,902	9,217	11,593	30,295	34,318

Other payments	27,976	1,162	8,210	13	-
					135,143
Total payments	**419,233**	**143,409**	**111,407**	**142,723**	**135,143**
Total receipts	**5,922,558**	**6,072,719**	**6,311,875**	**6,572,266**	**6,768,010**

a Includes receipts from the sale of horses and embryos, which are not explicitly listed in the table.

Source: Statistics Canada.

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Income of Farm Operators from Farming Operations, 1993-1997

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
+ Total farm cash receipts	5,922,558	6,072,719	6,311,875	6,572,266	6,768,010
- Operating expenses after rebates	4,831,533	5,095,212	5,155,909	5,357,051	5,413,530
= Net cash income	1,091,025	977,507	1,155,966	1,215,215	1,354,480
+ Income-in-kind	65,045	69,503	66,522	66,803	67,206
- Depreciation	733,843	763,523	809,469	847,131	899,229
= Realized net income	422,227	283,487	413,019	434,887	522,457
+ Value of inventory change	130,805	38,022	(67,563)	78,672	(58,416)
= Total net income	553,032	321,509	345,456	513,559	464,041

a Includes receipts from the sale of horses and embryos, which are not explicitly listed in the table.

Source: Statistics Canada.

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Agri-food Trade by Commodity Group, Ontario and Canada, 1996-1997 (Cdn$'000)

	Exports	Exports	Imports	Imports

	1996	1997	1996	1997
Ontario:				
Live animals	354,646	412,468	50,185	49,218
Red meats	423,133	470,886	518,391	582,437
Fish and products	108,543	106,725	437,021	457,646
Poultry and eggs	97,644	109,273	213,286	270,546
Dairy products	91,960	86,077	170,899	159,726
Other animal products	324,525	333,566	199,711	245,903
Grains	138,676	72,917	191,030	199,017
Grain products	669,607	707,888	540,361	608,255
Oilseeds	162,961	157,469	158,582	228,072
Oilseed products	300,282	268,236	309,444	345,383
Animal feeds	321,256	351,698	331,101	368,801
Fruit and nuts	63,493	71,555	1,295,206	1,352,122
Vegetables	283,238	356,468	789,618	936,550
Seeds for sowing	45,851	36,106	80,658	101,607
Vegetable fibres	2,061	1,059	93,819	90,317
Floriculture and nursery products	176,609	198,921	123,116	136,136
Tropical products (excl. fruit)	188,973	258,065	614,675	773,848
Sugar and confectionery	329,653	383,013	487,856	571,256
Other edible preparations	293,979	294,075	536,480	620,622
Beverages	741,085	769,588	452,894	552,068
Tobacco and products	149,944	153,340	63,592	83,644
Other agri-food products	57,270	44,538	56,018	58,460
Total	**5,325,390**	**5,643,932**	**7,713,947**	**8,791,635**
Canada:				
Live animals	1,864,913	1,882,875	120,929	123,227
Red meats	2,009,773	2,471,386	866,759	983,994
Fish and products	2,951,726	3,006,402	1,605,735	1,582,091
Poultry and eggs	156,137	180,212	314,257	383,263
Dairy products	337,223	367,553	271,389	280,816
Other animal products	628,608	690,854	330,521	398,011
Grains	4,771,353	5,250,541	363,554	370,709
Grain products	1,075,261	1,173,399	848,810	962,869
Oilseeds	1,603,949	1,881,081	236,242	297,843
Oilseed products	933,037	929,809	585,415	681,236
Animal feeds	793,822	872,987	517,540	574,490
Fruit and nuts	281,333	289,461	2,460,158	2,577,484

Vegetables	1,220,566	1,434,153	1,486,752	1,719,969
Seeds for sowing	192,939	202,678	121,698	143,163
Vegetable fibres	32,972	31,444	173,291	160,762
Floriculture and nursery products	422,815	499,241	228,515	253,861
Tropical products (excl. fruit)	317,316	416,393	1,326,237	1,545,380
Sugar and confectionery	518,964	601,893	973,357	1,028,740
Other edible preparations	422,381	460,747	785,548	906,602
Beverages	1,115,192	1,218,655	1,034,620	1,238,110
Tobacco and products	217,167	221,555	96,790	119,687
Other agri-food products	75,090	64,546	110,939	121,374
Total	**21,942,538**	**24,147,864**	**14,859,055**	**16,453,680**

Source: Statistics Canada, International Trade Division.

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Per Capita Consumption of Selected Foods Canada, 1991-1997

Red Meats, Poultry Meat and Eggs

Type	Units	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Beef								
- Carcass weight basis	kg	33.2	32.2	30.9	31.4	31.4	31.1	30.6
- Retail weight basis	kg	24.2	23.5	22.5	22.9	22.9	22.7	22.3
Veal a	kg	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4
Mutton and lamb a	kg	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
Pork								
- Carcass weight basis	kg	25.8	28.2	27.4	28.2	27.5	25.7	25.2
- Retail weight basis	kg	19.8	21.4	20.8	21.4	20.9	19.5	19.2
Offal	kg	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.2
Total red meats a	**kg**	**63.0**	**64.2**	**61.6**	**63.2**	**62.4**	**60.1**	**59.1**
Stewing hen and chicken	kg	23.7	24.1	24.6	26.2	26.0	26.3	27.2
Turkey	kg	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.2
Total poultry meats b	**kg**	**28.2**	**28.7**	**28.9**	**30.6**	**30.3**	**30.4**	**31.4**

Eggs	dozens	15.0	14.5	14.4	14.4	14.3	14.8	14.9

a. Carcass weight basis.
b. Eviscerated weight. Excludes goose and duck meat.
Sources: Statistics Canada, Catalogues No. 23-603 and 23-202

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Dairy Products and Margarine

Type	Units	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Cottage cheese	kg	1.03	0.92	0.88	0.86	0.83	0.75	0.71
Creamery butter	kg	2.98	2.79	2.93	2.86	2.75	2.69	2.53
Skim milk powder	kg	1.09	1.05	1.07	1.10	1.04	1.09	0.89
Whey powder	kg	0.87	0.79	1.00	0.96	0.93	1.09	0.80
Evaporated milk	kg	1.50	1.54	1.52	1.48	1.39	1.16	1.15
Cheddar cheese as such a	kg	3.11	3.06	3.00	3.16	3.21	3.03	3.15
Process cheese	kg	2.76	2.77	2.69	2.75	2.71	2.55	2.41
Other cheese as such ab	kg	5.29	5.37	5.41	5.54	5.57	5.59	6.21
Total Cheese	**kg**	**11.16**	**11.20**	**11.10**	**11.45**	**11.49**	**11.18**	**11.77**
Yogurt	kg	3.18	3.10	3.23	3.27	3.23	3.34	3.30
Sour cream	L	0.99	0.95	1.03	1.01	0.94	0.91	0.92
Ice cream	L	10.91	10.35	10.95	11.80	11.46	11.03	10.47
Margarine c	kg	5.53	5.29	5.38	4.90	5.12	4.91	..

a. Not including cheddar and other cheese used in process cheese.
b. Per capita consumption of whey and skim milk cheese is included in this category.
c. Estimate based on change in manufacturers' sales.
Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 32-229

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Number of Livestock Slaughtered in Commercial Establishmentsa Canada and the Provinces, 1996 and 1997

	Cattle & Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs	
Province	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	- '000 head -					
Nfld	2.9	3.0	7.2	7.3	3.3	4.0
PEI	37.5	37.8	188.9	185.0	1.0	1.0
NS	31.7	31.4	218.5	224.4	10.3	11.1
NB	29.6	29.8	133.5	144.2	1.5	1.8
Quebec	466.8	496.6	5,454.8	5,754.8	84.7	87.7
Ontario	811.6	800.5	3,620.3	3,485.7	244.7	235.7
Manitoba	66.3	47.9	1,863.6	1,878.0	12.6	11.4
Saskatchewan	234.4	235.4	1,139.0	1,181.3	14.1	14.2
Alberta	1,751.7	1,877.3	2,241.2	2,264.4	89.6	71.4
British Columbia	72.4	60.9	310.9	262.6	62.1	54.8
Canada	**3,504.9**	**3,620.6**	**15,177.9**	**15,387.7**	**523.9**	**493.1**

a Includes federally and provincially inspected slaughterings as well as farm kill.
Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No.23-603

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The Size of the Ontario Livestock and Poultry Industry

	% change	Numbers	Rank in	% of	# 1 Province

Industry	July 1,1997	July 1,1998	98/97	In Can'98	Canada	Canadain 1998	
	'000 head		%	'000 head		#	
Bulls(>1 yr.)	28.0	27.0	-3.6	266.4	4	10.1	Alberta
Dairy cows	405.0	402.0	-0.7	1,201.0	2	33.5	Quebec
Dairy heifers(>1 yr.)	198.0	196.0	-1.0	532.0	2	36.8	Quebec
Beef cows	435.0	425.0	-2.3	4,555.1	4	9.3	Alberta
Beef Heifers for breeding(>1 yr.)	100.0	73.0	-27.0	694.2	4	10.5	Alberta
Beef heifers for slaughter(>1 yr.)	145.0	144.0	-0.7	960.0	2	15.0	Alberta
Steers(>1 yr.)	290.0	280.0	-3.4	1,419.7	2	19.7	Alberta
Calves(<1 yr.)	658.0	625.0	-5.0	4,738.0	3	13.2	Alberta
Total Cattle & Calves	**2,259.0**	**2,172.0**	**-3.9**	**14,366.4**	**3**	**15.1**	**Alberta**
Sows & Bred Gilts	317.9	336.7	5.9	1,233.6	2	27.3	Quebec
Boars, 6 months & over	15.9	15.5	-2.5	59.5	1	26.1	Ontario
Other Pigs under 20kg	976.2	1,019.1	4.4	3,669.7	2	27.8	Quebec
Other Pigs, 20-60 kg	987.1	990.0	0.3	3,670.6	2	27.0	Quebec
Other Pigs, over 60 kg	825.1	828.0	0.4	3,544.9	2	23.4	Quebec
Total Pigs	**3,122.2**	**3,189.3**	**2.1**	**12,178.3**	**2**	**26.2**	**Quebec**
Sheep(> 1yr.)	128.8	131.0	1.7	449.1	1	29.2	Ontario
Lambs	97.6	101.0	3.5	388.6	2	26.0	Alberta
Total sheep & lambs	**226.4**	**232.0**	**2.5**	**837.7**	**1**	**27.7**	**Ontario**
Layers	7,970.0	8,338.0	4.6	21,776.0	1	38.3	Ontario
Broilers	18,716.9	19,856.6	6.1	60,791.2	1	32.7	Ontario
Turkeys	2,892.0	2,814.1	-2.7	7,530.5	1	37.4	Ontario

Source: Statistics Canada

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Abbreviations Used in the Report

A.A.F.C.	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
A.D.R.I.	Animal Diseases Research Institute
A.H.L.	Animal Health Laboratory
A.R.I.O.	Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario
C.A.H.I.	Canadian Animal Health Institute
C.A.R.C.	Canadian Agri-Food Research Council
C.C.A.	Canada Committee on Animals
C.D.E.C.	Canadian Dairy Extension Council
C.F.I.A	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
C.F.A.R.	Centre for Food and Animal Research, Ottawa
C.M.B.A.	Canadian Mink Breeders Association
D.F.O.	Dairy Farmers of Ontario
G.A.T.T.	General Agreement on Trades and Tariffs
O.A.C.	Ontario Agricultural College
O.A.R.S.C.	Ontario Animal Research and Services Coordinating Committee
O.A.S.C.C.	Ontario Agricultural Services Coordinating Committee
O.C.A.	Ontario Cattlemen's Association
O.F.A.C.	Ontario Farm Animal Council
O.F.B.A.	Ontario Fur Breeders Association
O.F.C.	Ontario Fox Committee
O.G.F.A.	Ontario Grain and Feed Association
O.M.A.F.R.A.	Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
O.M.M.B.	Ontario Milk Marketing Board
O.M.N.R.	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
O.P.P.M.B.	Ontario Pork Producers' Marketing Board
O.S.I.	Ontario Swine Improvement Inc.
O.S.M.A.	Ontario Sheep Marketing Association
O.T.P.M.B.	Ontario Turkey Producers' Marketing Board
O.V.C.	Ontario Veterinary College
O.V.M.A.	Ontario Veterinary Medical Association
R.O.P.	Record of Performance
U. of G.	University of Guelph

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